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Der Tod aus Altersschwäche, von HUGO RIBBERT. Friedrich Cohen, Bonn, 1908. 85 p.

Death from old age is a result of anatomic and functional changes in the composition of the body due especially to the high differentiation of the intercellular substances. It is a necessary result of chemico-physical properties that underlie life. Death from old age is a totally distinct thing from that by disease and is often unaffected by it, although sclerosis may accelerate it and other diseases may bring complications. Natural death is the death of the brain; a high degree of atrophy of the ganglion cells cannot be harmonized with life. Normally all men live approximately the same time, and the variations are what are to be accounted for.

Der Selbstmord als Spekulation des modernen Verbrechertums, von FRANZ CHYLE. Huber & Lahme, Vienna, 1908. 31 p.

The only cure the author sees against the growing tendency to suicide is the reform of family life, especially in the field of feeling and sentiment rather than of the understanding. There can be no doubt that in many respects civilized man is now beginning to degenerate, and that civilization is taking on certain morbid traits. It is fatal to expect too much of life, to be born rich or to be overloaded with culture too early. Suicides have often cursed their parents, holding them responsible for their deeds.

Untersuchungen zur Kenntnis der psychomotorischen Bewegungstörungen bei Geisteskranken, von KARL KLEIST. Werner Klinkhardt, Leipzig, 1908. 171 p.

This is a very valuable study based largely on one case, which seemed to pass through three akinetic stages, involving apraxia and mutism. The author thinks that psycho-motor disturbances are due to troubles of innervation, and is bold enough to do justice to this now too often discarded idea. The third part takes up the psychic conditions of psycho-motor disturbances in organic sensations, association, attention, etc. The writer is a disciple of Wernicke's and emphasizes his consciousness of corporeity, the substratum of which is a reflex system, including muscular and vestibular sensations, with their correlative motor reactions. Psychological investigation points to the same brain areas as does the analysis of motor disturbances. The frontal regions of the brain are focal for the body sense. The author holds to the dependence of psycho-motor symptoms upon effort, fatigue and other organic sensations, as well as feelings and attention.

Unverbesserliche Verbrecher und ihre Behandlung, von SHIGEMA OBA. Hermann Bahr, Berlin, 1908. 84 p.

The chief plea of this writer is that penalty should be proportional to the guilt and must be in the same field in which the crime was committed. Crimes involving pain should be punished with pain; simple theft by fines, according to the heinousness of the deed. He would also have what he calls preliminary punishments, and thus those under possible sentence should be held to a higher degree of accountability. Warnings and threats this writer thinks, therefore, are of great importance.

Sexuelle Ethik, von AUGUST FOREL. Ernst Reinhardt, Munich, n. d. 56 p.

This is a lecture originally given in Munich in 1906, which has reached a circulation of thirty thousand. In this last edition, the author has appended a number of concrete cases, from his experience, ethical-sexual conflicts, that have come to him. There are, for in-

stance, cases of morbid jealousy, of drunkenness and love, of a man who must either refrain from marrying the girl he loved or give up his place in the army, cases of notomanie, of growing discord and incompatibility in married life, of diseased men who wish to marry, of urnings, impotence, nymphomania, hypochondria, satyriasis, hereditary tendencies to disease (whether such should marry), fetishism, effects of reading very plain literature like this lecture, etc. The author's general law, which he urges at the end, is that the sexual nature should neither directly nor indirectly injure any one either of the present or the coming generation.

Geschichte der Philosophie, von MATTHIAS HAMMA. Theissingschen Buchhandlung, Münster, i. W., 1908. 83 p.

This is the tiniest general history of philosophy known to the writer of this review. It ends with Hegel and his immediate followers, and the first edition was issued in 1876; and the second, thirty-two years later, is not much changed. It begins with Thales and includes Schopenhauer and Herbart. It ought to be translated.

Bestia sum: Einige Kapitel über die Kehrseite des Menschthums, von WILHELM WACHTER. Emil Felber, Berlin, 1908. 261 p.

This rather startling title is perhaps quite justified. The author first describes man in primeval times generally, then follows an elaborate chapter on the murder of children among the lower races, and another on cannibalism. In a very striking final chapter, the author draws contrasts and similarities between primitive and civilized man, that are unique and somewhat startling.

Insomnia and Nerve Strain, by HENRY S. UPSON. G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York and London, 1908. 142 p.

The author first gives illustrative cases; then the effects of sleeplessness and fatigue upon the emotions, reflexes, sub-consciousness, atavistic symptoms, inhibition, convulsive seizure and choreic spasm, vascular potential, nutrition, vitality, epicritic neuro-psychoses, with a concluding chapter on prognosis, therapy, predisposition and heredity.

Contribution à la pathologie des mystiques, anamnèse de quatre cas, by FRANCOIS DA COSTA GUIMARAES. Jules Roussel, Paris, 1908. 51 p.

This is an interesting study of four cases of pathological mysticism, chosen and described from the literature, viz.: Plotinus, Fra Angelico, Susanne Labrosse (d. Paris, 1821, age 64), and Eustelle Harpain (d. 1842, age 28). The author's treatment of these cases is rather summary, and he perhaps rather too modestly declares that he will not attempt to draw any definite conclusions from his material.

Recent Progress and Present Tendencies in Comparative Psychology, by ROBERT M. YERKES. Rep. from The Journal of Abnormal Psychology, February-March, 1908. pp. 11.

Yerkes makes four fields of comparative psychology which he would have studied comparatively: first, physiology of the central nervous system in relation to the behavior of organisms and to consciousness, such as the work of Sherrington and Franz; second, descriptive behavior, illustrated by Jennings and Bohn; third, the analysis of animal psychic processes, shown in works like those of Watson, Porter, Cole, and Berry; and lastly, discussions of the basis and method, such as the work of Claparède, Washburn and Yerkes. The most recent works of each of these authors are briefly described.

A Non-Surgical Treatise on Diseases of the Prostate Gland and Adnexa, by G. W. OVERALL, M. D. Rowe Publishing Co., 1906. pp. xii, 228.

This is the third edition of a work which advocates local and constitutional medication, and the application of electrolysis and cataphoresis, in place of operation, for the diseases mentioned in the title. While the author deplores the current tendency to surgical interference, he is careful to insist on the necessity of training and instruction in the use of electrical therapeutics. The book is the outcome of more than twenty years of clinical experience. The present edition describes three important and novel modes of treatment.

S. P. WORTHING.

The Greek Verb Graphically, by W. SIHLER, A. M. *The German Noun: Its Difficulties Simplified*, by W. SIHLER. Decorah, Iowa.

The first of these pamphlets represents an attempt to teach the Greek conjugation graphically, by means of simple geometrical figures. The author argues that, at the time when Greek is learned, the eye has already received training from drawing and geometry, while visual memory is also better than auditory. Some hundred diagrams, printed in two colors, together with a page of endings, provide the necessary material.

The second pamphlet gives rules for German genders and plurals taken from Kaeding's *Häufigkeitswörterbuch*, with some mnemonic helps for irregular forms, materials for exercise, and a vocabulary.

G. PARTEN.

Ueber einige Berührungstäuschungen. Von F. KIESOW, 1907.

Ueber einige Streitpunkte auf dem Gebiete des Geschmacks. Von F. KIESOW, 1907.

Sulla presenza di organi del gusto nella parte laringea della faringe, nel tratto cervicale dell' esofago e nel palato duro del feto umano. Nota del Dott. M. PONZO, 1907.

Sulla presenza di calici gustativi in alcune parti della retrobocca e nella parte nasale della faringe del feto umano. M. PONZO, 1905.

Intorno alla presenza di organi gustativi sulla faccia inferiore della lingua del feto umano. M. PONZO, 1907.

Contributo al problema della localizzazione delle sensazioni. Di M. PONZO, 1905.

(1) Reprint from *Arch. f. d. ges. Psychol.*, X. Deals in the main with an illusion of touch; when the acuity of localization is determined by Weber's method (retouching by the observer of a point already touched by the experimenter), it often appears as if the first touch (the cue to localization) were given not by the experimenter but by the observer himself. The paper describes various modifications and seeks to determine the conditions of the illusion. (2) Reprint from *Zeits. f. Psychol.*, XLV. Review of W. Sternberg, *Geschmack und Geruch*. (3), (5) Reprints from *Anatomischer Anzeiger*, XXXI, XXX; (4) reprint from *Giornale della reale Acc. di Med. di Torino*, XI; describing and figuring taste-beakers in the regions indicated in the titles. (6) Reprint from *Atti del V. Congresso intern. di Psicologia*. In cases of 'lingual inversion' (reversion of the tongue from left to right), localization is accurate under the abnormal circumstances, the direction of movement is subjectively reversed, and a form of Aristotle's experiment is possible. Similar experiences occur on the pinna of the ear, scrotum and penis.

W. JENKINS.